



★ ROCKY LANE'S BLACK JACK

SEPTEMBER

A Charlton Publication

10¢

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# ROCKY LANE'S BLACK JACK

IT LOOKED LIKE THE END OF ROCKY LANE... ONLY HIS GALLANT STEED, BLACK JACK, COULD HELP HIM OUT OF THE TRAP OF THE **FORBIDDEN VALLEY**

E. E. HART

## GIANT CONTEST! EASY TO WIN!

**FREE!** WIN THIS REGULATION SIZE "BUSTER CRABBE" SWIMMING POOL

- INSTALLED COMPLETE
- DIVING BOARD
- FILTERING SYSTEM
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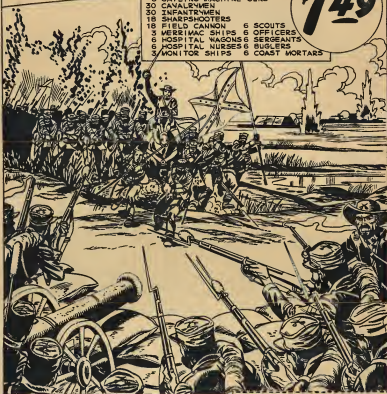
DETAILS INSIDE

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City ..... State .....

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ROCKY LANE'S BLACK JACK

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 29

SEPTEMBER 1959

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## BLACK JACK

IT TOOK ALL THE VAST COURAGE AND INTELLIGENCE OF A FOUR-FOOTED CYCLONE NAMED BLACK JACK TO AID HIS HUMAN ALLIES IN REPELLING WHAT CATTLE MEN SHUDDERINGLY CALLED...



ROCKY LANE'S

# BLACK JACK

"THE  
LION'S  
CLAW"



UNDER A GHOSTLY CANOPY OF MOON-LIGHT, A HERD OF CATTLE MOVES UNEASILY...



...NOT WITHOUT REASON!



# BLACK JACK



ROARING AND SNARLING, THE FEROCIOUS CAT FALLS UPON THE DEFENSELESS CATTLE...



LOWING PITEOUSLY, THE FRIGHTENED HERD SCATTERS IN ALL DIRECTIONS...



MILES AWAY, AT THE BAR 6 CHUCKWAGON, MAC LEWIS' TRAIL-DRIVERS SPRING UP IN ALARM...

I... IT MUST BE THAT COUGAR AGAIN! WEREN'T JED AND FRISCO SUPPOSED TO BE ON GUARD TONIGHT?

SURE, MR. LEWIS! BUT YOU KNOW HOW FEARED OUR HOSSES ARE TO GET CLOSE TO THAT CAT!



FORGET ABOUT THE COUGAR NOW! STOP THE STAMPEDE! WE WON'T HAVE A HERD LEFT IF WE DON'T HALT 'EM!

MORE RIGHT, MR. LEWIS! WE LOST ENOUGH HEAD THIS WEEK BECAUSE OF THAT CAT! C'MON, BOYS!



# BLACK JACK

SHORTLY AFTER...

JED/ FRISCO/  
DID YOU GET A  
SHOT AT THE  
LION?

NO, MR.  
LEWIS/ WE  
SEEN HIM  
GOIN' RIGHT  
THROUGH THE  
HERD, BUT WE  
COULDN'T GIT  
CLOSE/ OUR HOSSES  
STAMPED TOO!

AN HOUR LATER/

THERE'S EIGHTY HEAD  
MISSIN', MR. LEWIS/  
FROM THE WAY THEY  
MUST'VE BEEN RUN-  
NIN', THEY'RE  
SCATTERED RIGHT  
THROUGH THE STATE/

THE CAT KILLED  
FIFTEEN HEAD/  
THERE'S NOTHIN'  
MORE CRAZY  
THAN A COUGAR  
LET LOOSE ON A  
DEFENSELESS HERD/

LATER THAT MORNING, AS LEWIS' MEN TRY  
TO TRACE THE SPOOR OF THE COUGAR...

THERE AIN'T  
A SIGN OF  
HIM/ HE  
VANISHED  
INTO THIN  
AIR!

W-WAIT/ LOOK  
WHAT'S  
COMIN'!

IT'S  
ROCKY  
LANE'S  
STALLION  
BLACK JACK!

I WOULDN'T  
LET HIM COME  
CLOSER, MR.  
LEWIS/  
T-THERE'S NO  
TELLIN' WHAT  
A WILD  
HOSS'LL DO!

NOT THIS  
BRONC/ HE'S  
GOT A BRAIN  
THAT'S URCANNY/  
HE THINKS AND  
ACTS LIKE A  
HUMAN BEING/  
HERE, BLACK  
JACK/ SUGAR!

HE'S FOLLOWIN' US/  
WE DON'T WANT A  
FOOL HOSS AROUND,  
BOSS/ HE MIGHT  
MAKE OUR MOUNTS  
TAKE OFF!

HE KNOWS WE  
ARE FRIENDLY  
TO HIM/ HE  
WANTS TO  
STICK AROUND/  
HE'S WELCOME  
TOO/ HE'S ONE  
HORSE THAT WOULDN'T  
RUN FROM A COUGAR!

THAT NIGHT, AFTER SUPPER, AS JED  
AND FRISCO RIDE TOWARD THE HERD...

I DON'T LIKE  
HAVIN' THAT  
HOSS AROUND,  
FRISCO!

DON'T BE A FOOL,  
JED/ WE'VE BEEN  
RUSTLIN' LEWIS'  
CATTLE EVER SINCE  
HE CAME ON THE  
JOB AN' NOTHIN',  
INCLUDING THAT  
HORSE,  
WILL STOP  
US!

40

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EACH CAR MARKED CLEARLY WITH ITS OWN NAME!

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# BLACK JACK

THREE HOURS LATER, ON A RISE OF LAND OVERLOOKING THE VALLEY...

JED'S SIGNAL-  
ING TO US,  
GINLEY! HE'S  
ALL SET!

I SEE HIM!  
SIGNAL BACK!  
TELL HIM WE'RE  
READY TOO!



SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT, A TANNY  
SHAPE MOVES STEALTHILY DOWN THE  
MOUNTAIN SLOPE TOWARD THE GRAZING  
HERD...



IT CRAWLS FLAT  
ON ITS BELLY  
TILL IT'S WITH-  
IN STRIKING  
DISTANCE! THEN,  
WITH A ROAR  
THAT AWAKENS  
THE DOZING  
HERD, IT  
CHARGES!

GGGGRRRR!



IN THE SAME INSTANT, LONG BEFORE  
HUMAN EARS CAN HEAR THE ENSUING  
UPROAR, THE KEEN SENSES OF THE  
WONDER HORSE ALERT HIM TO THE MEN-  
ACE! SHORTING, BLACK JACK TURNS  
TOWARD THE HERD!

THE THUNDER OF THE MIGHTY HOOVES  
CAUSES THE COUGAR TO WHIRL...



# BLACK JACK

SPITTING AND YOWLING IN RAGE, THE LION RETREATS BEFORE THE COURAGEOUS ONSLAUGHT OF THE STEED...



BUT TERROR AND FRUSTRATION IS NOT ONLY THE REACTION OF FOUR-FOOTED BEASTS!

F-FRISCO! HOLD UP THE RUSTLIN' THAT WILD HORSE! HE'S DRIVIN' OFF THE COUGAR!

Y-YORE LOCO, JED! EVERY HOSS I KNOW IS SCAIRT OF THAT CAT!



THEN USE YORE BINOCULARS, YUH FOOL! CAN'T YUH SEE? HE'S CHASIN' THE LION CLEAN INTO THE BRUSH!



NOW HE'S STOPPIN' THE STAMPEDE!

YORE RIGHT, JED! WE CAN'T RUSTLE LEWIS' STOCK NOW! IN TWO SECONDS, THERE AIN'T GONNA BE NO STAMPEDE TO COVER OUR THIEVIN'!



I TOLD YUH I DIDN'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT HORSE! I FELT TROUBLE COMIN' UP!

THEN IT'S OUR BUSINESS TO GIT RID OF HIM! WE'LL THINK OF SOMETHIN'! LET'S JOIN THE OTHERS!



TEN MINUTES LATER, AFTER BLACK JACK STOPS THE STAMPEDE...

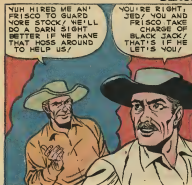
HE'S EVERYTHING HIS REPUTATION SAYS...AND MORE! HE CHASED THE COUGAR AND CHECKED THE STAMPEDE! I NEVER SAW ANYTHING SO WONDERFUL!

YEAH, MR. LEWIS, HE WAS GREAT! WE GOT A SUGGESTION TO MAKE!





# BLACK JACK



YUH HIRED ME AN' FRISCO TO GUARD YORE STOCK/ WE'LL DO A DARN SIGHT BETTER IF WE HAVE THAT HOSS AROUND TO HELP US/

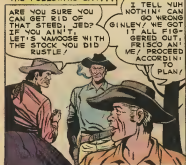
YOU'RE RIGHT, JED/ YOU AND FRISCO TAKE CHARGE OF BLACK JACK/ THAT'S IF HE LET'S YOU/



HE'LL LET US AS LONG AS THE SUGAR HOLDS OUT, EH, FRISCO?

YESSIR/ ALL HOSSES LOVE SUGAR... AN' THEM THAT GIVES IT TO 'EM/ WE'LL GET ALONG JEST DANDY/

LATER, DURING THE AFTERNOON OF THE FOLLOWING DAY...



ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN GET RID OF THAT STEED, JED? IF YOU AIN'T, LET'S VAMOOSE WITH THE STOCK YOU DID RUSTLE/

I TELL YUH NOTHIN' CAN GO WRONG SINLEY/ WE GOT IT ALL FIG'GERED OUT, FRISCO AN' ME/ PROCEED ACCORDIN' TO PLAN/

AT MIDNIGHT, THAT NIGHT, THE TWO CONSPIRATORS CATCH BLACK JACK BY SURPRISE/



WE GOT HIM, FRISCO/ QUICK/ WIND THE ROPE AROUND A TREE TRUNK/ WE'LL MAKE HIM FAST WITH OTHER LINES/

HE'LL NEVER BREAK FREE... FOR ALL HIS STRENGTH/ THAT COUGAR WILL FINISH HIM/



SHORTLY AFTER, AS THE MOUNTAIN LION SLINKS TOWARD THE HERD, ITS ATTENTION IS DIVERTED/ ITS VICIOUS MEMORY IS STIRRED/ HERE IS A CHANCE TO WIPE OUT THE STAIN OF AN IGNOMINIOUS RETREAT/



# BLACK JACK

CLOSER AND CLOSER CAME THE MURDEROUS CAT/ DESPERATELY, BLACK JACK STRAINS AT HIS BONDS/ HIS FLESH IS HURT BY THE UNYIELDING ROPES/ YET, HE KNOWS HE MUST NOT GIVE UP/ AND AS THE LION LEAPS...



A LIGHTNING-LIKE RUSH AND COLLISION IN MID-AIR/ THERE IS A SICKENING CRUNCH OF BONES AS THE COUGAR COLLAPSES WITH A SNAPPED NECK/



L-LOOK, LEWIS/ BLACK JACK KILLED THE COUGAR!

THAT'S NOT ALL/ HE WANTS US TO FOLLOW HIM!



TWENTY MINUTES LATER, IN A HIDDEN PASS, NOT FAR AWAY ...

FORGOT ABOUT BLACK JACK, GINLEY/ HE'S THE COUGAR'S DIET FOR TONIGHT!

W-WHAT'RE YUH TALKIN' ABOUT/ BLACK JACK'S ALIVE/ HE'S COMIN' AT US NOW!



THE RUSTLERS DREW HASTILY, BUT BEFORE THEY CAN GET OFF A SHOT...

BLACK JACK'S LED US TO THE RUSTLERS/ JED AND FRISCO WERE THE GANG'S PLANTS/ COVER 'EM MEN!



MINUTES LATER, ANOTHER MYSTERY IS CLEARED UP...

LOOK/ AS A PET/ HE SENT THE CAT OUT AGAINST THE HERDS TO CAUSE STAMPEDES DURING WHICH JED AND FRISCO RUSTLED THE CATTLE, CLAIMING THEY WERE MISSING!

BUT WE'D NEVER HAVE FOUND OUT IF IT WASN'T FOR BLACK JACK!



END

THE NEXT TWO PAGES ARE FULL OF  
THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF PRIZES IN

**CHARLTON  
COMICS**

# GIANT CONTEST

IT'S EASY TO WIN --  
"BUSTER CRABBE" SWIMMING POOL!  
25 SCHWINN BIKES!  
A \$1000 SAVINGS BOND BY CARVEL!  
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CHARLTON BUILDING  
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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

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2. FILL IN YOUR OWN NAME AND ADDRESS
3. TELL US IN 25 WORDS OR LESS WHY YOU CHOSE THIS NAME.
4. SEND IT TO:  
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CHARLTON BUILDING  
DERBY, CONN.**  
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SEND ENTRIES TO:  
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5. WINNERS WILL BE CHOSEN ON THE BASIS OF ORIGINALITY AND NEATNESS, BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE CHARLTON COMICS GROUP. SELECTIONS OF THE JUDGES WILL BE FINAL. IN CASE OF TIES, DUPLICATE PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED.
6. ENTRIES MUST BE POST-MARKED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 30, 1959
7. ENTER AS MANY TIMES AS YOU WISH -- ONE WINNER TO A FAMILY.

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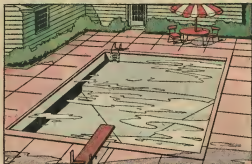
# FIRST PRIZE!

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AT ONE TIME!

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3-SPEED  
GEARS



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WILL BE AWARDED, COMPLIMENTS OF YOUR  
LOCAL CARVEL FRANCHISED DEALER

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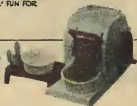


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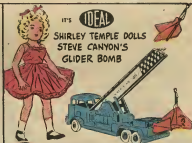
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TRANSOGRAM

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FOR BEACH

FOR POOL

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BONUS

ALL TOP PRIZE WINNERS RECEIVE BOXES OF BONOMO'S TURKISH TAFFY



A MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF CANDY EATING FUN. CRACK IT UP FOR DIZENS OF MOUTH WATERING BITE SIZE PIECES. THESE TEMPTING FLAVORS -- VANILLA, CHOCOLATE, STRAWBERRY AND BANANA.



Rocky Lane's

# BLACK JACK

ROCKY LANE RODE TOWARD WHIPTOWN WITH A WARRANT IN HIS WRISTBAG FOR KID SUMMERS!

THIS WILL BE A TRICKY DEAL! IF THE KID AND HIS GANG SPOT ME AS A LAWMAN, I'LL BE IN A TOUGH SPOT!



# OUTLAW TOWN

HIS MIND RAN BACK TO HIS TALK WITH CAPTAIN STONE AT RANGER HEAD-QUARTERS...

HE'LL BE IN HIDING! THE ONLY WAY TO GET HIM OUT IS WITH A HORSE RACE! HE CAN'T RESIST FINE HORSES AND RACING THEM! THAT IS WHERE BLACK JACK COMES IN!

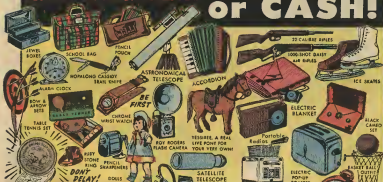


KEEP YOUR HANDS AWAY FROM YOUR GUNS!

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

# BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!

# GIVEN! GIVEN! YES, WE GIVE YOU PREMIUMS or CASH!



## YOURS FREE!

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Continued: Please send me on trial 14 packages of **White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE** to sell at 50¢ a package. I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start. Be sure to send **FREE FOREIGN COINS.**

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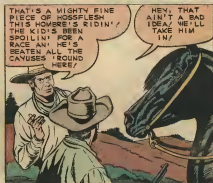
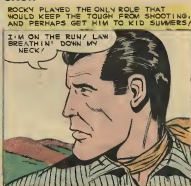
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★ Paste coupon on postal card or mail in envelope today

**WILSON CHEMICAL CO.**  
DEPT. 99-5, TYRONE, PA.

OVER 65 YEARS!

# BLACK JACK





# BLACK JACK

NOW THAT'S THE WAY I LIKE TO HEAR A MAN TALK! I GOT A COUPLE OF FAIR BRONCS! RACE EITHER ONE AGAINST YOUR CAYUSE! WINNER TAKES THE LOSER'S HORSE!

YOU'VE GOT A RACE!

CATES, FETCH MY BRONCS!

O.K., KID!

ONLY WAY I CAN TAKE HIM IS TO GET HIM AWAY FROM THE REST OF THESE HARD-CASES! MAYBE DURING THE RACE...

CATES BROUGHT THE KID'S TWO "BRONCS" LONG LEGGED THOROUGHBREDS, BRED FOR SPEED AND RACING!

DON'T MATTER MUCH WHICH ONE YOU RIDE!

NO, IT DON'T! WE'LL RACE TO THAT BIG ROCK OUTSIDE OF TOWN AND BACK!

THE RACE BEGAN!



WHEN WE GET TO THE BIG ROCK I'LL GRAB HIM... AND WE'LL KEEP RIGHT ON GOING! IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!



# BLACK JACK

BUT WHEN THEY REACHED THE BIG ROCK, LANE SAW THAT HIS CHANCES WERE NIL/

IF I MAKE A MOVE THAT HARDCASE WILL BLAST ME/ I'LL HAVE TO BIDE MY TIME/



SUDDENLY THE BIG BLACK STALLION SHOT FORWARD/ AS HE PASSED THE THOROUGHBRED LANE SAW THE ANGER CONTOURED FACE OF THE KID/



HEY, KID, YOU'VE MET YOUR MATCH/



LOOKS LIKE HE WON...

NO, YUH LOST, LANE/ YEAH, I KNOW YUH/ ONLY ROCKY LANE'S BLACK JACK COULD BEAT IN THOROUGHBREDS/ IT GAVE YUH AWAY/ NOW I'LL TAKE THAT STUD/ MEN, KEEP HIM COVERED/

THE KID MOUNTED BLACK JACK/ LANE KNEW IN A MOMENT HE'D TURN AND SHOOT/



...THROW HIM, BOY/



# BLACK JACK

IN THAT MOMENT OF CONFUSION, ROCKY LANE MADE HIS MOVE ...



AND BLACK JACK PITCHED INTO THE BATTLE ...



KID SUMMERS SNARLED AND, LEAPING ON THE OTHER THOROUGHBRED, SPURRED MADLY AWAY ...



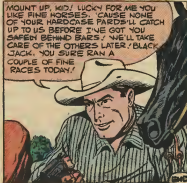
THOUGH SPENT FROM THE RACE, BLACK JACK'S POWERFUL MUSCLES HURLED HIM TO WITHIN REACHING DISTANCE OF THE RACING THOROUGHBRED ...



MEANWHILE, ROCKY LANE MOUNTED AND RACED THE OTHER THOROUGHBRED OUT OF TOWN ...



MOUNT UP, KID! LUCKY FOR ME YOU LIKE FINE HORSES. 'CAUSE NONE OF YOUR HARDCASE PARDS'LL CATCH UP TO US BEFORE I'VE GOT YOU SAFELY BEHIND BARS. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE OTHERS LATER. BLACK JACK, YOU SURE RAN A COUPLE OF FINE RACES TODAY.



# READY AND ABLE

The Texas Rangers as an organization dates from the spring of 1836. After the fall of the Alamo, General Sam Houston organized among the settlers in the territory a troop of sixteen hundred mounted riflemen. This company, formed for the defense of the Texas borders, was the original Texas Ranger Unit. During the seven years that Texas had to maintain her independence, before she was admitted into the American Union, the rangers had a lot of work to do.

They repelled the Mexicans, fought the Apaches, Comanches, and Kowas, and administered justice to the outlaws and ruffians who flocked to the new republic. When the Civil War broke out between the North and South, Texas was drawn into the conflict on the side of the Confederacy. General Con Terry, an old ranger, organized the famous body of men known as Terry's Texas Rangers. This command was composed almost exclusively of ex-rangers and frontiersmen. From Bull Run to Appomattox, this organization rendered gallant service and lost seventy-five per cent of its original muster roll.

The return of peace and the days of reconstruction did not do away with the necessity for the service which only the ranger could render. Indian uprisings, banditry, and cattle thievery all flourished. From 1868 to 1873 the ranger companies were gradually reduced from one thousand to about three hundred men.

In 1874 conditions along the frontier had become so acute that the need for an organized mounted police for the protection of the settlers against the continued Indian raids became apparent. Early in 1874, the legislature appropriated the sum of \$300,000 for frontier defence, thus authorizing the formation of the Texas Rangers as now constituted. The governor immediately issued a call for four hundred and fifty volunteers. They were formed into six companies of seventy-five men each. Each of these units was designated A, B, C, D, E, and F and received the official name of the Frontier Battalion of Texas Rangers.

On this particular day, Company A, being the northernmost company, was camped on the main fork of the Brazos River. Captain John Lane was in command of the unit and was seated on a small chair in his tent. In front of him was a packing case which served as a desk. The flap of his tent moved aside and Ranger Jim Nevins appeared.

"He's here, captain," was the announcement. "The men are giving him the once over. Why he's nothing more than a kid. From what I heard I thought Al Caswell was something of a giant and about twice the age."

"Don't let appearances fool you, Jim," suggested Captain Lane. "When a fellow can out think a red-skin, then there's something mighty powerful inside his head. He doesn't just use it as a place to park his hat. I borrowed him from unit E for a special job. Now bring him to me."

Al Caswell was at that time a dark-eyed, dark-haired youngster whose youthful age was anybody's guess. The broad-brimmed white hat upon his head, the heavy-buckled cartridge studded belt that carried the six shooter on his hip, and the shop made boots on his feet were the hallmarks of his trade. He had a friendly smile and you liked him at once.

The original Ranger regulation for guns was the .50 caliber Sharps carbine and one .45 Colt's pistol. Later the .44 Winchester carbine was to be used in place of the Sharps. Al Caswell had purchased with his own funds one of the new Winchesters and had it on the right side of his horse in a scabbard, and on the left side in another scabbard, his Sharps.

"Reporting for duty, captain," was all that the youthful Ranger said when he entered the tent.

"I have a warrant here for the arrest of Hank Carling. Charge is taking some stock from the IT ranch. I want him arrested and brought here alive. We figured that such action would make the rest of the rustlers associated with him nervous. If you kill him, that ruins our plans. If he kills you, we lose a good man. Understand?"

"Yes," was the one word reply.

"You start tomorrow morning," explained Captain Lane. "You may take any Ranger with you from my unit."

"I'll take the fellow who sort of announced my arrival," smiled Al Caswell. "It ought to be an experience for him. We ride at dawn."

The sun was just up from the horizon the next day when the two men left the Ranger camp. Their destination was the small town of Hogarsville where it was rumored Hank Carling made his headquarters. The two men rode north with hardly a word passing between them. The trip lasted three days and early at noon of the fourth day approached their destination.

"You wait for me on the outskirts of the town," said Al Caswell to his companion Ranger. "This has to be a single man job. No matter what happens, just stay put. I'll be back before sundown with Hank Carling."

Al Caswell rode into town alone. He tied his horse loosely to a hitching post near a stable. Then he walked the distance on foot to The Palace. He entered and spoke to the bartender loudly.

"I'm looking for Hank Carling. You can see plainly I am a Texas Ranger. I have a warrant for his arrest. No need to create a disturbance here. Just tell me where I can find him. It all should be done peacefully."

Three men nearby almost didn't believe the words they heard. The bartender looked at the youthful appearance of the Texas Ranger. He moved a glass backwards and that was a signal. One of the three men left and entered a back room. Soon from it came the wanted man himself. In his hand he held a .45 colt which he inched right up to the spine of Al Caswell.

"Don't turn around," he suggested. "You can feel the muzzle. You walk right out of here. But first I'll take your gun. Don't be a fool and try anything. From what they tell me, you certainly must be one big fool coming here and announcing yourself the way you did."

Finishing those words, Hank Carling removed with his left hand the gun that the ranger carried. It was a beautifully carved weapon. He replaced his own gun in the holster and now held Caswell's sixgun.

"I'm going to walk you to where your horse is. Then get out of town pronto. Otherwise you might force me to shoot you with your own gun. I run things here so don't think you will be able to get any help."

The two men walked slowly to where Caswell's horse had been hitched. Hank Carling spotted the

two rifles in the scabbards.

"I'll remove those weapons also," he said.

"Can I turn around for just a minute," asked the Ranger. "There is something I must tell you. It is very important and might save your life."

Carling was curious. He figured he had nothing to lose so he told the Ranger to turn around. The muzzle of the gun was now levelled at the stomach.

"Listen carefully to what I have to say," said the Ranger in a stern tone of voice that contrasted with the way he previously had spoken. "You hold my gun in your hand. It has six empty shells in the chambers. You have the gun cocked. Pull the trigger and nothing will happen. But if you look carefully at the right hand you will see a deringer. How did it get there? A trick holster attached to my hand. It shoots a .50 caliber bullet. That will tear a big hole in you. Don't try to go for your gun. But pull the trigger and be convinced."

The startled man didn't know what to do. The confidence with which the Ranger had spoken completely unnerved him. Finally he pulled the trigger and heard the firing pin strike an empty shell.

"You got me, but how are you going to get me out of town?" he challenged.

"Simple," was the reply. "We are here at the stable. You will ask for a horse. Hold that gun in your hand as though I am still your prisoner. Then we ride out together. My partner is waiting for me."

Hank Carling obeyed and followed orders. On the outskirts of Hogarsville, they met the other Ranger. The prisoner was disarmed. The ride back to headquarters was uneventful. To save his own hide, Hank Carling talked all about his operations.

"What brains that Ranger has," he admitted. "But he did take a chance. Suppose I had not held his gun but my own. What then?"

Captain John Lane also wanted to know the answer to that question. And Al Caswell gave it to him.

"I took that possibility into consideration," he explained. "I wore a heavy shirt. Why? Because around my body was a thick steel vest that could stop a bullet."

"Shows you a Ranger is prepared for anything," conceded Captain John Lane.



# RUN OR FIGHT

LEO ROSS DIDN'T WANT TROUBLE... HE JUST WANTED TO FARM HIS SECTION OF BOTTOM LAND AND BUILD A HOME FOR HIS GIRL WAITING BACK EAST! HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW CATTLEMEN LIKE BUCK BOWMAN FELT ABOUT SODBUSTERS IN THE CATTLE COUNTRY... HE HAD TO LEARN THE HARD WAY!

HEY...WATCH IT, YOU'RE RUINING...LOOK OUT!

SOBBUSTER! RUN OR WE'LL RIDE YUH DOWN!

RUN!

BAM!

BAM!



5526

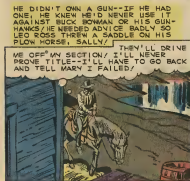
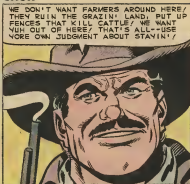
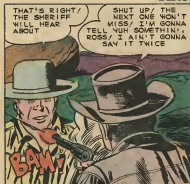
STOP IT! WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

YOUR NAME IS BOWMAN, ISN'T IT? THIS IS MY LAND! YOU HAVE NO...

SHUT UP SOBBUSTER! WE DON'T WANT YUH HERE! I'D TEAR YORE SHACK APART EXCEPT FOR THE SHERIFF!

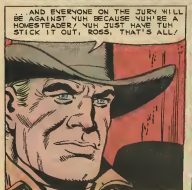
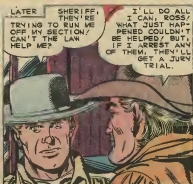
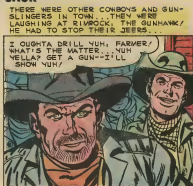


# BLACK JACK





# BLACKJACK

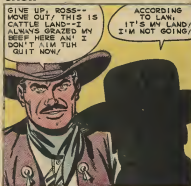


# BLACK JACK



HELP ME/ DRIVE HIM OFF, BOWMAN!

THAT PORE OLD CONI WON'T HURT YUH, FARMER!



GIVE UP, ROSS-- MOVE OUT/ THIS IS CATTLE LAND--I ALWAYS GRAZED MY BEEF HERE AN' I DON'T AIM TUH QUIT NOW!

ACCORDING TO LAW, IT'S MY LAND/ I'M NOT GOING!



OKAY--WE'LL GET TOUGH THEN!

BOWMAN AND HIS CREW WRECKED EVERYTHING BEFORE THEY LEFT--ALL THAT LEO ROSS HAD LEFT WAS HIS SADDLE AND THE PLOW HORSE, SALLY/ HE GAVE UP THEN... HE LEFT THE HOME-STEAD FOR THE CATTLEMEN!

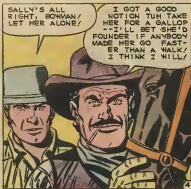


I WISH I WERE DIFFERENT--MORE LIKE THEM/ THEY CARRY GUNS, THEY'RE NOT AFRAID TO FIGHT!



YOU WIN, BOWMAN/ I CAN'T FIGHT THE WHOLE VALLEY!

YOU CAN'T EVEN FIGHT ME, SOB-BUSTER/ YOU GOT AS MUCH FIGHT AS THAT CROWBAIT YUH CALL A HORSE!



SALLY'S ALL RIGHT, BOWMAN/ LET HER ALONE!

I GOT A GOOD NOTION TUH TAKE HER FOR A GALLOP--I'LL BET SHE'D FOUNDER IF ANYBODY MADE HER GO FASTER THAN A WALK/ I THINK I WILL!

# BLACK JACK

THE QUIET, TIMID FARMER WATCHED BUCK BOWMAN GRAB THE REINS AND YANK ON SALLY'S MUZZLE TO GET HER TURNED AROUND. THEN, HE STOPPED BEING QUIET...OR TIMID!

LOOK OUT, BOSS!



LEO ROSS SAW THE GUNS COVERING HIM AS HE PUMPED PUNCHES INTO THE BIG CATTLEMAN!

THE FARMER'S ALL RIGHT, ONCE HE GETS STARTED!

GET BACK! I'LL FIX THAT DUDE!



I TOLD YOU, BOWMAN!



HOLD IT, FARMER! DROP IT!

I TOOK ORDERS LONG ENOUGH!



GO AHEAD--START SHOOTING! I'LL EMPTY THIS WINCHESTER BEFORE YOU MAKE ME QUIT!

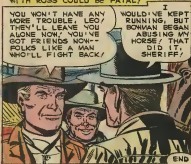
YIPHOA--TAKE IT EASY!



THAT DID IT--BOWMAN HAD ENOUGH AND HIS MEN WERE CONVINCED TROUBLE WITH ROSS COULD BE FATAL!

YOU WON'T HAVE ANY MORE TROUBLE, LEO! THEY'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE NOW, YOU'VE GOT FRIENDS NOW--FOLKS LIKE A MAN WHO'LL FIGHT BACK!

I WOULD'VE KEPT RUNNING, BUT BOWMAN BEGAN ABUSING MY HORSE! THAT DID IT, SHERIFF!



END



ROCKY LANE'S

# BLACK JACK

IN **FORBIDDEN VALLEY**

I DIDN'T KNOW THIS VALLEY EXISTED, AND I IMAGINE FEW PEOPLE DO, BUT WE'RE GOING IN BECAUSE THE MAN WE'RE TRAILING WENT IN!

THE VALLEY LAY DARK AND FORBIDDING BEFORE HIM/ SOMEWHERE, HIDDEN BY THE OVERHANGING CLOUDS, A BUZZARD CROAKED LIKE AN OMINOUS WARNING/ BUT THE TRAIL OF THE OUTLAW, WOLF COTTRELL, LED DOWNWARD AND ROCKY LANE MUST FOLLOW IT, INTO THE FORBIDDEN VALLEY AND INTO... DANGER!



BEFORE HE REACHED THE FLOOR OF THE DARK VALLEY LANE FELT EYES FOLLOWING HIM, UNSEEN AND WATCHFUL!



HOLD IT! GET HIS GUN, JUDAH! THIS IS FORBIDDEN VALLEY, STRANGER! YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE ENTERED!



# BLACK JACK

IN THE VALLEY A SMALL TOWN SQUATTED AMONGST THE ROCKS AND TREES/

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

TO THE ELDER, SAMSON, OUR LEADER! WE ARE THE EXECUTIONERS, HIS RIGHT HANDS!



SO, ANOTHER STRANGER COMES AMONGST US!

THEN WOLF DID COME HERE? I'M A LAW OFFICER WITH A WARRANT FOR HIS ARREST!



THE ONLY LAW RECOGNIZED IN FORBIDDEN VALLEY IS MY LAW! THE MAN YOU SEEK HAS FOUND SANCTUARY HERE! THAT IS A FINE HORSE! I CLAIM HIM!

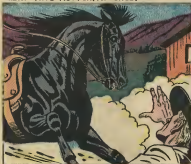


JUST A MINUTE...

SEIZE HIM, HE DEFILES YOUR ELDER!



THE BIG BLACK STALLION SAW VIOLENCE BEING DONE TO HIS MASTER AND WENT INTO ACTION/AT ONCE!

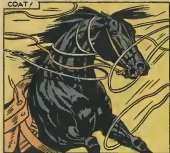


ROPES, QUICKLY! ROPE THE STALLION! HA, I SHALL TAME HIM AND HE WILL BE A MOUNT FIT TO BEAR THE LEADER OF MY PEOPLE!



# BLACK JACK

ROPES SLITHERED THROUGH THE AIR FROM ALL DIRECTIONS, ENSNARING THE FIGHTING BLACK, TIGHTENING AGAINST HIS EBONY COAT!

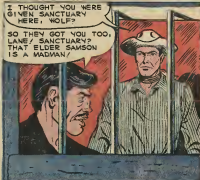


GOOD! HE WILL SOON LEARN IT IS USELESS TO FIGHT MY WISHES! PUT HIS MASTER IN JAIL!



I THOUGHT YOU WERE GIVEN SANCTUARY HERE, WOLF?

SO THEY GOT YOU TOO, LANE! SANCTUARY? THAT ELDER SAMSON IS A MADMAN!

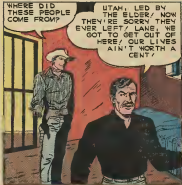


HE RULES THE PEOPLE LIKE A KING! EVERYBODY'S AFRAID OF HIM! THERE'S A LEGEND THAT HE'S INDESTRUCTIBLE!



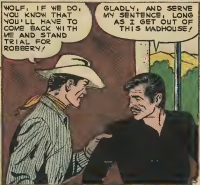
WHERE DID THESE PEOPLE COME FROM?

UTAH, LED BY THE ELDER! NOW THEY'RE SORRY THEY EVER LEFT! LANE, WE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! OUR LIVES AIN'T WORTH A CENT!



WOLF, IF WE DO, YOU KNOW THAT YOU'LL HAVE TO COME BACK WITH ME AND STAND TRIAL FOR ROBBERY!

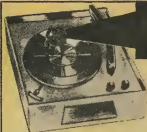
GLADLY, AND SERVE MY SENTENCE, LONG AS I GET OUT OF THIS MADHOUSE!



CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

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ONLY  
\$6<sup>98</sup>



FUN FOR  
THE WHOLE  
FAMILY



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LEFT AND RIGHT  
LOOKS REALLY  
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Rush my combination headlight and directional signal at once. If I am not 100% delighted after 10 day free trial, I may return for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclose 1.98 plus 27¢ shipping charges. Send Guarantee.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman delivery and shipping charges.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

# BLACK JACK

A JAILER CAME WITH FOOD, AND WOLF STRUCK!

COME ON, LANE!



BUT THE JAILER CRIED OUT AND OTHERS OF THE ELDER'S MEN RUSHED IN!

GOT TO GET TO BLACK JACK! I WON'T LEAVE HIM IN THAT DEVIL'S HANDS!



REELING AND ONLY SEMI-CONSCIOUS, THE LAYMAN AND THE OUTLAW FOUGHT THEIR WAY OUT TO THE STREET!



THEY HAVE DEFIED YOUR ELDER, SAMSON, THE INDESTRUCTABLE! ALL YE WHOWATCH TAKE HEED, AND REMEMBER MY JUDGMENT! SEIZE THEM!



IT WAS THEN THAT BLACK JACK, BY A TREMENDOUS MUSCULAR EFFORT, SNAPPED THE ROPES THAT BOUND HIM!



SHOOT! SHOOT THE STALLION ... HE'S A TIGER!





# BLACK JACK



COME ON,  
WOLF!



HELP! HE...  
HE'LL KILL ME!

SUDDENLY THERE WAS A LULL / A  
MAN STEPPED OUT OF THE WATCH-  
ING CROWD /

STOP IT, NOW!  
STRANGER / CALL YOUR  
HORSE OFF!



YOU MADE SLAVES OF US / WE WERE AFRAID /  
BUT THE HORSE SHOWED US YOU WERE ONLY  
HUMAN, NOT INDESTRUCTABLE / NOW WE'RE  
GOING TO DRIVE YOU AND YOUR  
EXECUTIONERS OUT OF THE  
VALLEY AND BE FREE!



AND SO THE PEOPLE DROVE THE DICTA-  
TOR AND HIS MINIONS FROM THE  
VALLEY, AND LANE RODE OUT WITH HIS  
PRISONER!



ON THE RIM OF THE VALLEY HE  
STOPPED TO HAVE HIS LAST LOOK / THE  
CLOUDS HAD GONE AND THE SUN SHONE  
DOWN ON GREEN GROWTH, AND THE  
VALLEY WAS NO LONGER FORBIDDING!

YOU DID IT, BLACK JACK / YOU LED  
THEM FROM THE DARKNESS TO THE  
LIGHT OF FREEDOM AND A NEW LIFE!



END

It's Easy To Have Plenty Of

# EXTRA MONEY

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TO BUY

You Make  
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**EXTRA!**

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Deluxe ball point pen held in large, handy tray containing color reference map of U.S.

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So life-like that it even **SOUNDS** like a real jet! So authentic that Pan American Airways has authorized it as an Official Model! And now it is yours complete—with nothing else to buy!—**FOR A PRICE SO LOW THAT UNTIL TODAY IT WAS ENTIRELY IMPOSSIBLE.**

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Lucky Freedom, Dept. 7

Cole Place, Long Island, N. Y.

Send me your DOUGLAS DC-8 JETLINER—all-plastic flying model entirely at your risk! I am enclosing only \$1.00 in check, money order or cash for this model. I understand that the price of these models during this special introductory offer is only \$1.00 plus 25¢ for postage and handling charges for each model. I must be delivered with one—OR I MAY SIMPLY RETURN IT TO YOU WITHIN ONE WEEK FOR EVERY CENT OF MY MONEY BACK.

Name

Address

City  State

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MEN • WOMEN**

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Camp Fire Girls - News Boys!**

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We will send you the wonderful prize pictured on this page ... or dozens of others, such as jewelry, stadium dial wrist watches, tableware, tools, an rifle, U-Make-It kits, leather kits, sewing kits, electric clocks, pressure cookers, model airplanes, scout equipment, movie machines, record players, and many others ... all WITHOUT ONE PENNY OF COST. You don't risk or invest a cent—we send you everything you need ON TRUST. Here's how easy it is: Merely show your friends and neighbors inspiring, beautiful Religious Wall Motive pictures. Many buy six or even more to hang in every room. An amazing value, only 35c... sell on sight. You can make big cash commissions or get many exciting prizes for selling just one set of 24 Motives. Order prices for selling 2 sets or more. Write today for Big Prize catalog sent to you free.

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**FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG**

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EXTRA! To be sent to you and payment within 15 days, and I'll give you FREE a year's Membership in the FUNMAN's Fun Club. Membership card, certificate, instant cash, great booklet of 24 materials all yours — PLUS extra surprises!

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**The FUNman, Dept. F-159 3725 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, IL. FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG**

Please rush to me on 15-day credit 24 Religious Wall Motives, as well as 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount received as explained in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 10 days and select the prize I want — keep each consolation kit explained.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street or RFD \_\_\_\_\_

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**HERE'S HOW YOU GET YOUR PRIZES**

Rush your name and address on envelope and we ship AT Once Prepaid your first set of 24 Motives on trust. When you have sold the 24 Motives, send the \$6.00 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. If you prefer to EARN MONEY, send \$6.00 and keep \$2.40. Hurry, send TODAY for 24 Motives ON TRUST and big Prize Catalog Free.

**SEND NO MONEY—We Trust You!**